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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mason, Wenda M.

Title: FATTY ACID-BASED
HERBICIDAL
COMPOSITION

Appl. No.: To be determined

Filing Date: To be determined

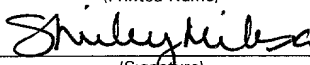
Prior Appl. No.: 08/309,559

Prior Appl. Filing Date: 09/20/1994

Examiner: To be determined

Art Unit: To be determined

Attorney Docket No.: 23261/162

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CONTINUING PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Box PATENT APPLICATION
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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) is a:

[☒] Continuation [☐] Division [☐] Continuation-In-Part (CIP)

of the above-identified copending prior application in which no patenting, abandonment, or termination of proceedings has occurred. Priority to the above-identified prior application is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120 for this continuing application. The entire disclosure of the above-identified prior application is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuing application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

Enclosed are:

- [☒] Specification, Claim(s), and Abstract (26 pages).
- [☒] Copy of executed Declaration and Power of Attorney from parent priority application Serial No. 07/608,306 (filed on November 2, 1990), (4 pages).

- [X] The revocation of prior powers of attorney and appointment of new power of attorney in immediate parent application (Application Serial No. 08/309,559) is to Foley & Lardner. A copy of the executed Revocation of Prior Powers of Attorney by Assignee; Appointment of New Power of Attorney by Assignee; Change of Correspondence Address (from copending parent Application Serial No. 08/309,559 is enclosed (2 pages)).
- [X] Parent Application Serial No. 07/608,306 (filed on November 2, 1990), is assigned of record to Safer, Inc., as evidenced by the Assignment recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel/Frame 5501/0827.


The filing fee is calculated below:

	Claims as Filed	Included in Basic Fee	Extra Claims	Rate	Fee Totals
Basic Fee				\$710.00	\$710.00
Total Claims:	11	- 20	= 0	x \$18.00	= \$0.00
Independents:	2	- 3	= 0	x \$80.00	= \$0.00
If any Multiple Dependent Claim(s) present:			+	\$270.00	= \$0.00
				SUBTOTAL:	= \$710.00
[]				Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract ½ of above):	= \$0.00
				TOTAL FILING FEE:	= \$710.00

- [X] The required filing fees are not enclosed but will be submitted in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application.
- [X] Please insert before the first line of the application:

"This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/309,559 (filed on September 20, 1994); which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/111,282 (filed on August 24, 1993), abandoned; which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 07/799,661 (filed on November 21, 1991), abandoned; which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 07/608,306 (filed on November 2, 1990), abandoned".

[illegible]

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Attorney Docket No. 23261/162

FOR

FOR

UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

SPECIFICATION

SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that WENDA MASON invented certain improvements in IMPROVED FATTY ACID-BASED HERBICIDAL COMPOSITION of which the following description in connection with the accompanying drawings is a specification, like reference characters on the drawings indicating like parts in the several figures.

Background of the Invention

This invention relates to herbicidal compositions which are effective, economical and environmentally compatible. More particularly, an improved herbicidal composition has been obtained by combining a fatty acid-based active ingredient with a glyphosate-based active ingredient.

Herbicides are widely used to control the rate of growth or to cause mortality in unwanted or undesirable plant species. Among the most widely used herbicides are those which are petrochemical-based. Although quite effective, many petrochemical-based herbicides are considered to pose hazards to the environment, as well as to humans, animals and aquatic life.

Due to concerns for such hazards posed by petrochemical-based herbicides, several environmentally compatible herbicides have been developed. Fatty acid based compounds having between eight and eighteen carbon atoms serve as an example of one class of environmentally compatible herbicides. These compounds occur naturally in soil and decompose quite rapidly (i.e., within about 1-3 days) within soil. An exemplary fatty acid-based herbicidal compositions is commercially available

Such fatty acid-based herbicides are quite effective for most applications. However, like most pesticides, they are not well suited for all applications. For example, these compositions are not able to translocate and are thus only effective on the plant tissue which is contacted by the herbicidal composition. Also, because such compositions are used in relatively high concentrations of active ingredient, i.e., 3 to 6 percent, their use can be costly.

One petrochemical-based herbicide which apparently exhibits minimal environmental impact is a glyphosate-based composition. This compound is an effective, broad spectrum herbicide which has the ability to translocate within plant systems. Glyphosate-based herbicides can be expensive to use, and typically must be applied at concentrations in the range of 1 to 2 percent. One potential drawback to the use of glyphosate-based compounds is that they do not occur naturally and have an average half-life in soil slightly less than 60 days.

It is thus an object of the invention to provide an effective, broad spectrum herbicide which is environmentally compatible and economically feasible. Another object is to provide a herbicide which has the advantages of the fatty acid-based herbicide, but which also has the ability to translocate. An additional object of the invention is to provide an effective herbicidal composition with improved efficacy. A further object of the invention is to provide a herbicidal composition which combines two known active ingredients in such a way that the concentration of each of the individual components is present at levels less than what is recommended for herbicidal activity. It is also an object of the invention to provide an effective herbicide while at the same time reducing the pesticide load in the environment. Other objects will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon reading the following disclosure.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides an effective, environmentally compatible herbicidal composition which combines two known active ingredients such that each is present at a concentration below what is recommended for herbicidal activity of each ingredient alone. The composition combines a fatty acid-based herbicide with a glyphosate-based herbicide. The fatty acid component may be a fatty acid such as caprylic acid, pelargonic acid, capric acid, undecanoic acid, 10-undecanoic acid, lauric acid, oleic acid and mixtures of these fatty acids and other fatty acid mixtures such as soybean fatty acid and coconut fatty acid. In another embodiment salts, or mixtures of various salts of these fatty acids may be used as one herbicidal active ingredient. The glyphosate component preferably is N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine, its derivatives or the salts thereof. The fatty acid or fatty acid salt component is present in the range of 0.1 to 3.0 percent by weight of the composition while the glyphosate component is present at 0.08 to 2.0 percent by weight of the composition.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The herbicidal composition of the invention, as noted above, comprises a combination of two active ingredients in an aqueous solution. One active ingredient comprises one or a mixture of fatty acids or salts of fatty acids. The other active ingredient is a glyphosate-based compound such as

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The fatty acid component of this herbicidal composition can be one or a mixture of fatty acids. The fatty acids which may be used include caprylic acid, pelargonic acid, capric acid, undecanoic acid, 10-undecanoic acid, lauric acid, oleic acid and mixtures thereof. Other fatty acid mixtures such as soybean fatty acid and coconut fatty acid (which are described below) may also form the fatty acid component. Pelargonic acid is a preferred fatty acid-based active ingredient. However, in other embodiments mixtures of fatty acids such as mixtures of pelargonic, capric and lauric acids; or a mixture of capric and lauric acids may be used as well.

Soybean fatty acids comprise a mixture of the following fatty acids in the following percentages by weight: 0.5% lauric acid, 0.5% myristic acid, 12% palmitic acid, 4% stearic acid, 25% oleic acid, 52% linoleic acid, and 6% linolenic acid. Coconut fatty acids comprise a mixture of the following fatty acids in the following percentages by weight: 7% caprylic acid, 6% capric acid, 50% lauric acid, 18% myristic acid, 8.5% palmitic acid, 3% stearic acid, 6% oleic acid, 1% linoleic acid and 0.5% linolenic acid.

Various fatty acid salts or mixtures of fatty acid salts may also be used as the fatty acid component of the herbicidal composition of this invention. These include sodium, potassium and other metal salts, as well as ammonium salts of caprylic acid, pelargonic acid, capric acid, undecanoic acid, 10-undecanoic acid, lauric acid, oleic acid, mixtures thereof and other fatty acid salt mixtures such as soybean fatty acid and coconut fatty acid.

Other exemplary fatty acid salt mixtures which may be used as an active ingredient in the present herbicidal composition include the partial or complete sodium or potassium salts of pelargonic, capric acid and coconut fatty acid in a ratio of 1:1:2. Another exemplary saponified fatty acid mixture which may be used as an active ingredient in this herbicidal composition includes a 1:1 mixture of the partial or complete sodium or potassium salts of soybean and coconut fatty acids.

As noted above, a variety of combinations of fatty acids or fatty acid salts may be used in preparing the fatty acid active ingredient of the present herbicidal composition. The fatty acid active ingredient may also include a variety of surfactants, emulsifiers and other formulation enhancers. One of ordinary skill in the art will easily be able to decide whether any such compounds are necessary, and if so, to choose the desired compounds. By way of example, however, exemplary surfactants include quaternary ammonium salts, ethoxylated phosphate esters, polyoxyethylene derivatives of fatty acid partial esters of sorbitol anhydrides, castor oil ethoxylate, nonyl phenol ethoxylates, isopropyl alcohol and mixtures thereof. Exemplary quaternary ammonium salt compounds are commercially available under the trademarks "Ethoquad" and "Arquad" from Akzo America, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois. Exemplary emulsifiers include those which are alkylaryl sulfonate-based polyoxyethylene derivatives of fatty acid and partial esters of sorbitol anhydrides. Commercially available examples include those sold under the trademark "Atlox" and "Tween" by Atkemix, Inc. and those sold under the trademark "Emsorb" by Quantum Chemicals of Cincinnati, Ohio. Formulation enhancers may include alcohols and oils such as terpenoids, triglycerides and mineral oils.

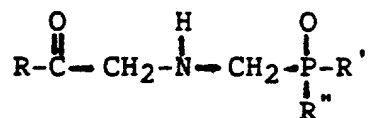
A number of exemplary formulations which may be used as the fatty acid active ingredient of this invention are disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 421,146 and 421,376 both of which were

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16.6% coconut fatty acid
8.3% pelargonic acid
8.3% capric acid
9.78% potassium hydroxide (45% solution)
30.0% denatured alcohol
30.0% water

The other active ingredient of the herbicidal composition is the glyphosate-based compound. As used herein the term "glyphosate-based" includes N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine and various related compounds and salts as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 3,799,758, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Glyphosate-based compounds typically have the general formula:



In the above formula R, R' and R" can be -OH, halogen or -SH groups. Various other glyphosate-based compounds are described in U.S. Patent No. 3,799,758 which is hereby incorporated by reference. Among the most preferred glyphosate-based compounds is N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine in which R, R' and R" are all hydroxy groups.

In addition to the glyphosate-based compounds described above, the glyphosate-based component of this herbicidal composition may also include various salts of glyphosate-based compounds. Such salts may be prepared by the partial or complete neutralization of the acid with the appropriate base, carbonate, ammonia or organic amine. One preferred salt of a glyphosate-based compound is the isopropyl amine salt of N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine.

The glyphosate-based component may or may not be formulated with various surfactants. One of ordinary skill in the art will easily be able to decide whether surfactants are necessary, and if so, to choose the necessary surfactants.

Exemplary glyphosate-based compounds are commercially available from Monsanto Company of St. Louis, Missouri under the trademarks ROUNDUP, ACCORD, HONCHO, RANGER, and RODEO.

The glyphosate-based component of the herbicidal composition may be present in the composition at a concentration range of about 0.08 to 2.0% by weight. The preferred concentration range is

The herbicidal composition of this invention may be prepared by adding the desired amount of the glyphosate-based active ingredient to the required amount of water and mixing thoroughly. The desired amount of fatty acid (saponified or non-saponified) active ingredient formulation is then added and thoroughly mixed into the formulation. This formulation may be pre-formulated so as to form a ready-to-use composition, or may also be prepared just prior to use by tank mixing the two components. In some instances a pre-formulated, ready-to-use composition may require agitation immediately prior to use.

The present herbicidal compositions are foliar applied, nonselective herbicides which may be sprayed upon unwanted weeds and grasses. These herbicidal compositions may be provided in a ready-to-use formulation or in a concentrated formulation which must be diluted with water before application. The formulation applied to unwanted weeds and grasses typically contains in the range of

The herbicidal compositions of the invention are effective and environmentally compatible. They are broad-spectrum, non-selective herbicides useful in crop, non-crop, aquatic, and domestic weed control, especially in environmentally sensitive areas where reduced pesticide loads are desirable. The compositions are effective on most weed species and are applied as postemergence sprays to foliage of vegetation to be controlled. One advantage of these compositions is that they have the ability to translocate. The carrier volumes are those recommended for glyphosates (47 to 374 l/ha, 5 to 40 gpa). Typically, 7 to 14 days are required before evidence of phytotoxicity or plant mortality appears.

The following non-limiting examples serve to further describe the invention.

Three species of weed, used in each test: Hypochoeris radicata (false dandelion), Sinapis arvensis (wild mustard), and Avena sativa (oats), were grown in a greenhouse facility in 5.5cm square pots using a potting soil mix comprising peat, vermiculite, sand, and 4-10-10 fertilizer. Water-soluble 20-20-20 fertilizer was used as a supplement for the plants as required. The plants were selected for use based on uniformity and quality and were potted separately. One plant per pot each of H. radicata (6-10 leaves) and S. arvensis (4-6 leaves) were used. Six to eight plants of A. sativa (2-4 leaves) were used per pot. After spraying with a herbicidal composition (as described below) the pots were arranged in a randomized complete block design in sub-irrigated watering trays. Six to ten replicates (pots) were used per treatment.

The results of these experiments are shown in the tables which follow.

TABLE I

Phytotoxicity (%)

Herbicide	<u>H. radicata</u>		<u>S. arvensis</u>		<u>A. sativa</u>	
	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
1. Round-Up* (0.1%) Formulation A** (0.1%) Combination	22 0 28	22	1 0 18	1	4 4 3	8
2. Round-Up (0.1%) Formulation A (0.5%) Combination	22 1 71	23	1 0 88	1	4 4 10	8
3. Round-Up (0.1%) Formulation A** (1.0%) Combination	22 2 64	24	1 1 39	2	4 6 58	10

*Round-Up is commercially available from Monsanto Company. Its active ingredient is the isopropylamine salt of N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine.

**Formulation A is a mixture of potassium pelargonate, potassium caprate and potassium laurate, in ratios of 1:1:2, used in this experiment at total active ingredient concentrations of 0.1, 0.5 and 1.0 percent by weight.

In a greenhouse facility four plant species were grown in 5.5cm square pots using a potting soil mix comprising peat, vermiculite, sand and 4-10-10 fertilizer. Water soluble 20-20-20 fertilizer was used as a supplement for the plants as required. The plant species used were corn, oats, radish and morningglory. The plants were selected for use based on uniformity and quality. The corn plants used were in the 3 to 4 leaf stage and two plants were present in each pot. The oats used were in the 2 to 4 leaf stage and four plants were present per pot. The radish plants used were in the 3 to 5 leaf stage and one plant was used per pot. The morningglory were in the 2 to 4 leaf stage with one plant per pot. After spraying with a herbicidal formulation, the pots were arranged in a randomized complete block design in sub-irrigated watering trays, and included a water-treated control treatment. Four replicates (pots) were used for each treatment.

The data obtained are presented in the tables which follow.

TABLE 2

Phytotoxicity (%)

Herbicide	<u>H. radicata</u>		<u>S. arvensis</u>		<u>A. sativa</u>	
	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
1. Round-Up (0.1%)	22		1		1	
Sodium pelargonate (0.1%)	0		0		0	
Combination	47	22	35	1	2	1
2. Round-Up (0.1%)	22		1		1	
Sodium pelargonate (0.1%)	0		0		0	
Combination	47	22	80	1	2	1
3. Round-Up (0.1%)	22		1		1	
Sodium pelargonate (0.1%)	0		0		1	
Combination	56	22	88	2	2	2

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TABLE 3

Herbicide	Phytotoxicity (%)					
	<u>H. radicata</u>		<u>S. arvensis</u>		<u>A. sativa</u>	
	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
1. Round-Up (0.1%)	0		30		7	
Potassium						
pelargonate (0.1%)	0		0		6	
Combination	12	0	31	30	8	13
2. Round-Up (0.1%)	0		30		7	
Potassium						
pelargonate (0.5%)	0		0		5	
Combination	71	0	42	30	14	12
3. Round-Up (0.1%)	0		30		7	
Potassium						
pelargonate (0.5%)	3		2		7	
Combination	46	3	45	32	10	14

TABLE 4

Herbicide	Phytotoxicity (%)					
	<i>H. radicata</i>		<i>S. arvensis</i>		<i>A. sativa</i>	
	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
1. Round-Up (0.1%)	90		8		11	
Formulation B* (0.1%)	0		0		3	
Combination	96	90	14	8	8	14
2. Round-Up (0.1%)	90		8		11	
Formulation B (0.5%)	0		0		3	
Combination	99	90	9	8	13	14
3. Round-Up (0.1%)	90		8		11	
Formulation B (1.0%)	0		0		2	
Combination	99	90	13	8	9	13

*Formulation B is a 1:1 mixture of soybean and coconut fatty acids used in this experiment at a total active ingredient concentration of 0.1, 0.5 and 1.0% by weight.

TABLE 5: Radish Plants

Days after Treatment	2	4	7	9	11	16	18	21	23	25	28	30	32	35	42	46	57
0.2% Round Up	Phyto* Mortality 0	0	1	1.5	3.0	4.25	4.25	4.75	6.0	5.75	6.25	6.25	6.5	5.75	5.0	5.0	5.25
0.1% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.5% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1.0% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
0.2% R-U** Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.75	2.75	3.5	3.25	3.25	2.75	3.25	3.25	3.5	3.5	5.0
0.2% R-U Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	1.0	2.5	4.0	6.0	7.0	7.0	7.25	7.0	7.25	7.0	6.75	6.75	6.75	7.0	8.25
0.2% R-U Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/4	2/4	2/4
0.2% R-U Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	2.0	3.0	4.5	6.5	6.5	6.25	6.75	6.5	6.50	6.75	7.0	7.0	6.5	7.0	8.25

*Phyto = Phytotoxicity (0-10 rating scale)

**R-U = Round-Up

° Denotes 1 of the 4 plants died.

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TABLE 6: Morningglory

Days after Treatment	2	4	7	9	11	16	18	21	23	25	28	30	32	35
0.2% Round Up	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.75	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
0.1% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.5% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1.0% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.2% R-U & 0.1% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	1.0	3.0	4.25	6.5	6.75	7.25	7.5	8.0	8.0	8.25	8.25	8.25
0.2% R-U & 0.5% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	1.0	3.0	5.75	8.0	8.75	8.75	9.75	10	10	10	10	10
0.2% R-U & 1.0% C9 Na ⁺ Salt	Phyto Mortality 0	0	2.0	4.0	7.5	9.0	9.0	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

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TABLE 7: Corn

Days after Treatment	2	4	7	9	11	16	18	21	23	25	28	30	32	35	42	46	57	
0.2% Round Up	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.75	1.75	2.75	3.25	3.5	4.5	6.0	6.5	6.5	7.0
0.1% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0.5% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1.0% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.25	0.5	0.75	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0.2% R-U & 0.1% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0.25	1.0	2.5	2.75	2.75	3.0	2.75	2.75	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.25	4.0	
0.2% R-U & 0.5% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	1.0	1.25	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.5	2.50	2.50	3.25	3.75	4.75	4.5	4.5
0.2% R-U & 1.0% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	1.0	2.25	3.25	5.25	5.25	6.25	7.25	7.50	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.75	9.0	9.0	9.25

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TABLE 8: Oats*

Days after Treatment	2	4	7	9	11	16	18	21	23	25	28	30	32	35
0.2% Round Up	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0.75	1.0	1.5	1.75	1.5	1.5	1.75	2.25	2.0	2.0	2.5
0.1% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.5% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1.0% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.2% R-U & 0.1% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	1.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.25	1.25	1.5
0.2% R-U & 0.5% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	0.75	1.5	1.75	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.75	1.0	1.0	1.5
0.2% R-U & 1.0% C9 Na+ Salt	Phyto Mortality	0	0	1.0	1.5	2.25	3.0	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.5	3.25	3.5	3.75
														4.0

*Note: No mortality was observed, results presented are phytotoxicity ratings only

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With respect to the above experiments, it is noted that fatty acid/glyphosate herbicides having glyphosate (Round-Up) concentrations of 0.5 to 1% usually caused so much damage to the test plants (approaching 100%) that evidence of potentiation was lost. The recommended rate of Round-Up for application to established weeds under field conditions is 1 to 2% of the product diluted in water. It is further noted that greenhouse-grown plants are generally more susceptible to lower rates of herbicide than are field-grown plants.

In addition, an enhanced herbicidal effect resulting from the application of a combination herbicide (including glyphosate-based herbicide and fatty acid based herbicide) is not supported in every species in each experiment. There are a number of reasons for this. Primarily, though, in herbicidal experiments, the conditions under which the plants are grown (light, temperature and humidity), the age of the plants, the species and variety of plant, and the rate and method of application of herbicidal components all can influence the ratios at which enhanced herbicidal activity is observed. In addition, a test method selected may, in some cases, be so hypersensitive that the additive effect of the two active ingredient components results in plant death. Therefore potentiation cannot always be detected.

It is understood that variations may be made to the herbicidal compositions disclosed herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

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a glyphosate-based active ingredient present at a concentration range of about 0.08 to 2.0% by weight of a ready-to-use composition; and

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the glyphosate-based active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine and the isopropyl amine salt of N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine.

3. The composition of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid-based active ingredient is saponified or non-saponified and is selected from the group consisting of caprylic acid, pelargonic acid, capric acid, undecanoic acid, 10-undecanoic acid, lauric acid, oleic acid, and mixtures thereof.

4. The composition of claim 2 wherein said fatty acid-based active ingredient is saponified or non-saponified and is selected from the group consisting of soybean fatty acid and coconut fatty acid.

5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the saponified fatty acid-based active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of partial or complete calcium, potassium and ammonium salts.

6. The composition of claim 2 wherein the fatty acid active ingredient comprises pelargonic acid and an emulsifier component.

7. The composition of claim 2 wherein the fatty acid active ingredient comprises pelargonic and capric acids, at a ratio of about 1:1, and an emulsifier component.

8. The composition of claim 2 wherein the fatty acid active ingredient comprises the sodium or potassium salts of pelargonic acid, capric acid and coconut fatty acid, the fatty acid salts being present at a ratio of about 1:1:2.

9. The composition of claim 2 wherein the fatty acid active ingredient comprises the sodium or potassium salts of soybean fatty acid and coconut fatty acid, the fatty acid salts being present at a ratio of about 1:1.

10. The composition of claim 1 further comprising an emulsifier component.

11. A method of controlling the growth of unwanted vegetation, comprising the steps providing the herbicidal composition of claim and applying the composition to the unwanted vegetation at a volume of 47 to 347 liters per hectare.

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Abstract of the Disclosure

Disclosed is a herbicidal composition which combines two known active ingredients at concentrations of the individual active ingredients below the level generally necessary for the individual ingredients to exhibit herbicidal activity. The herbicidal activity of the disclosed composition is greater than that of either of the individual active ingredients used alone. One of the active ingredients is a fatty acid based composition selected from caprylic acid, pelargonic acid, capric acid, undecanoic acid, 10-undecanoic acid, lauric acid, oleic acid, salts thereof and mixtures thereof. In addition, other fatty acid or fatty acid salt mixtures may be used, such as soybean fatty acid or coconut fatty acid. This component is present at a concentration range of about 0.1 to 3.0 percent by weight. The other active ingredient is a glyphosate-based herbicidal active ingredient, e.g., the isopropyl amine salt of N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine, present at about 0.08 to 1.0 percent by weight.

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Declaration, Petition and Power of Attorney For Patent
Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated
below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only
one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint
inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject
matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the
invention entitled

IMPROVED FATTY ACID-BASED HERBICIDAL COMPOSITION

the specification of which

(check one)

X is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____ as

Application Serial No. _____

and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I do not know and do not believe that the subject matter of
this application was ever known or used in the United States
before my invention thereof or patented or described in any
printed publication in any country before my invention thereof
or more than one year prior to the date of this application,
and that said subject matter has not been patented or made the
subject of an issued inventor's certificate in any country
foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or
my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months
prior to the date of this application; that I acknowledge my
duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is
material to the examination of this application, that no
application for patent or inventor's certificate on the subject
matter of this application has been filed by me or my
representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United
States, except those identified below, and that I have reviewed
and understand the contents of the specification, including the
claims as amended by any amendment referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is
material to the examination of this application in accordance
with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

[illegible]

Check one:

 such applications have been filed as follows

Country	Application Number	Date of Filing (month,day,year)	Priority Claimed Under 37 USC 119
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_____ YES NO _____

CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(S)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application. As to subject matter of this application which is common to my earlier United States application, if any, described below, I do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to said earlier application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to said earlier application, that the said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of said earlier application in any country foreign to the United States on an application, filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to said application and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on said subject matter has been filed by me or my representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States except those identified herein.

_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented,pending,aband.)
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented,pending,aband.)

000207 2625950

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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William C. Geary III (617) 227-7400

Wherefore I petition that letters patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the attached specification and claims, and hereby subscribe my name to said specification and claims and to the foregoing declaration, power of attorney, and this petition.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor

Wenda Mason

Inventor's signature

Date

Wenda Mason

Oct 31 1976

Residence

Brentwood Bay, British Columbia

Citizenship

Canadian

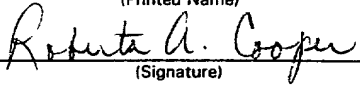
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mason, Wenda M.
 Title: FATTY ACID-BASED HERBICIDAL COMPOSITION
 Appl. No.: 08/309,559
 Filing Date: 09/20/1994
 Examiner: J. Pak
 Art Unit: 1209

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
EL529676051US (Express Mail Label Number)	December 7, 1999 (Date of Deposit)
Roberta A. Cooper (Printed Name)	
 (Signature)	

REVOCATION OF PRIOR POWERS OF ATTORNEY BY ASSIGNEE
APPOINTMENT OF NEW POWER OF ATTORNEY BY ASSIGNEE
CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Safer, Inc. is the assignee of Application No. 07/608,306 (filed on November 2, 1990), and all continuing applications thereof, including Application No. 08/309,559 (filed on September 20, 1994), as evidenced by an Assignment recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 2, 1990 at reel/frame 5501/0827.

Safer, Inc., through its duly-delegated representative, hereby revokes all prior Powers of Attorney submitted in this application, and hereby appoints the following registered attorneys and agents of the law firm of FOLEY & LARDNER:

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JOSEPH N. ZIEBERT	Reg. No. 35,421
WALTER E. ZIMMERMAN	Reg. No. 40,883

as its principal attorneys to have full power to prosecute this application and any continuations, divisions, reissues, and reexaminations thereof, to receive the patent, to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and to have full power of substitution, association, and revocation, including the power to revoke the power of attorney of any associate attorney.

Please direct all future correspondence concerning this application to:

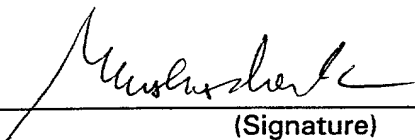
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Executed this 27th day of November, 1999.

Safer, Inc.

By:


 (Signature)
 MARK G. EISENSTEIN
 (Printed Name)
 EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
 (Title)